

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 7 have been canceled, and claims 3, 5, 6, 8 and 10 have been rewritten as new claims 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16, respectively. Original claims 2, 4 and 9 have been rewritten as new claim 11. The claims have been rewritten to improve the clarity of the claimed subject matter and to bring the claims into conformity with U.S. practice and format, and to place the application fully in condition for allowance. All of the amendments are fully supported by the original disclosure of this application and therefore do not constitute the introduction of any new matter into this case. The original Abstract has been amended to provide a more concise summary of the disclosure in accordance with U.S. practice format.

Applicant has not yet received an indication from the Examiner as to the acceptability of the originally filed drawings and requests such indication in the next Official Action, in the absence of which it is assumed that the original drawings are acceptable.

Claims 11-16 remain pending upon entry of the amendments to the claims above.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 2-6 and 8-10 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, claims 3, 5, 6, 8 and 10 have been rewritten as new claims 12-16, respectively. Claims 2, 4 and 9 have been rewritten as new claim 11. The new claims are believed to be in full compliance with 35 USC 112, second paragraph, and are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-10 have been canceled, and rewritten as new claims 11-16. The new claims are believed to be in compliance with the requirements of 35 USC 112, second paragraph, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the detailed correction of the claims.

Claim Rejections under Double Patenting

Claims 1 and 7 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1 and 3 of co-pending patent application No. 10/619,416. Claims 1 and 7 have been canceled.

In the event there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application which can be resolved by a telephone call or facsimile communication to

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Applicant's Attorney, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone or facsimile at the numbers provided below.

Respectfully submitted,
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